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Report Number:

90-984

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Gupta, Ajay K.; Boals, Alfred J.; Sherwani, Naveed A.; and Hambruch, Susanne E., "A Lower Bound on Embedding Large Hypercubes into Small Hypercubes" (1990). *Department of Computer Science Technical Reports*. Paper 836.  
<https://docs.lib.purdue.edu/cstech/836>

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# A Lower Bound on Embedding Large Hypercubes into Small Hypercubes

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<sup>1</sup>Research supported in part by a Fellowship from the Faculty Research and Creative Activities Support Fund, WMU-FRCASF 90-15 and by the National Science Foundation under grant MIP-87-15652.

<sup>2</sup>Research supported in part by a Fellowship from the Faculty Research and Creative Activities Support Fund, WMU-FRCASF 89-225274.

<sup>3</sup>Research supported by the Office of Naval Research under Contracts N00014-84-K-0502 and N00014-86-K-0689, and the National Science Foundation under Grant MIP-87-15652.

## Abstract

The problem of embedding an  $N$ -processor architecture  $G$  into an  $M$ -processor architecture  $H$  for  $N > M$  arises when algorithms designed for architectures of an ideal size are simulated on existing architectures which are of a fixed size. In this paper we present solutions to this embedding problem for the case when both architectures are hypercubes and the embeddings are to achieve a balanced load. An embedding achieves a balanced load if every processor of  $H$  simulates at most  $\lceil \frac{N}{M} \rceil$  processors of  $G$ . We show that in this case hypercube  $G$  can be embedded into hypercube  $H$  with a dilation of 1 and an optimal congestion of  $\frac{N}{M}$ . The main contribution of the paper is the lower bound on the congestion.

# 1 Introduction

Almost all parallel algorithms developed are architecture specific, that is, the architecture of the target parallel machine plays an important role in algorithm design and communication techniques used. Furthermore, it is often assumed that parallel machines are of ideal size; that is,  $\mathcal{F}(N)$  processors are available for a problem of size  $N$ . In practice, however, an algorithm may be required to run on various architectures having different interconnection network and/or number of processors. Thus, understanding the relationships between various architectures is critical for development of portable parallel algorithms.

In this paper we consider the problem of mapping an algorithm designed for a hypercube  $G$  of  $N$  processors to that of a hypercube  $H$  of  $M$  processors with  $N > M$ . We phrase the problem as a graph embedding problem. The concept of graph embeddings has proven to be a successful one in understanding relationships between different architectures [1, 3, 6, 8, 11, 10, 12]. When  $N > M$ , one processor of  $H$  simulates a number of processors of  $G$  and the load of the processors of  $H$  becomes a crucial quantity. We concentrate on embeddings that achieve a balanced load; i.e., every processor of  $H$  simulates at most  $\lceil \frac{N}{M} \rceil$  processors of  $G$ . Embeddings achieving a balanced load are of practical importance, since they make every processor of  $H$  share an equal load. Before describing our results in detail, we give the necessary definitions.

When the architectures of both machines are viewed as graphs, an embedding  $\langle f, g \rangle$  of  $G$  into  $H$  is defined by a surjective mapping  $f$  from the processors of  $G$  to the processors of  $H$  together with a mapping  $g$  that maps every edge  $e = (v, w)$  of  $G$  onto a path  $g(e)$  connecting  $f(v)$  and  $f(w)$ . We refer to  $f$  as the assignment. Since architectures  $G$  and  $H$  are viewed as graphs, henceforth, we will refer to the processors of  $G$  and  $H$  as nodes. Two commonly and extensively studied cost measures of an embedding are the dilation and the congestion [1, 3, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12]. The *dilation*  $\delta$  is defined as the maximum distance in  $H$  between two adjacent nodes in  $G$ , and the *congestion*  $\lambda$  is defined as the maximum number of paths over an edge in  $H$ , where every path represents an edge in  $G$ . The *load*  $\mu$  is defined as the maximum number of nodes of  $G$  assigned to any node of

$H$ . We say that an embedding achieves a *balanced load* when  $\mu = \lceil \frac{N}{M} \rceil$ .

Embeddings of a guest network  $G$  into a host network  $H$  of the same topology, but smaller size have previously been studied in [2, 5, 6, 7]. In [5], Fishburn and Finkel consider various architectures for specific values of  $N$  and  $M$ . Berman and Snyder [2] present embeddings by performing contractions which guarantee a dilation of 1, but do not achieve a balanced load. In [7], Gupta and Hambrusch present efficient balanced load embeddings of complete binary trees for all the values of  $N$  and  $M$ . More recently, Sang and Sudborough [13] have investigated the problem of achieving a balanced load for meshes.

As stated earlier, in this paper we investigate the problem of embedding a large hypercube into a small hypercube. We first give the definition of a hypercube. An  $n$ -dimensional hypercube  $Q_n$  has  $N = 2^n$  nodes and every node in  $Q_n$  is labeled as  $b_{n-1}b_{n-2}\dots b_0$ , where  $b_s \in \{0, 1\}$  for  $0 \leq s \leq n-1$ . A node with label  $b_{n-1}\dots b_0$  is connected to  $n$  nodes having labels  $b_{n-1}\dots b_{s+1}\bar{b}_sb_{s-1}\dots b_0$ , for  $0 \leq s \leq n-1$ . When viewing the hypercube  $Q_n$  as a graph, we let  $V_n$  be its node set and  $E_n$  be its edge set.

In section 2, we give a simple embedding of an  $n$ -dimensional hypercube  $Q_n$  into an  $m$ -dimensional hypercube  $Q_m$ , for  $n > m$ . This embedding achieve an optimal dilation of 1, a congestion of  $2^{n-m}$ , and a balanced load of  $2^{n-m}$ . In Section 3 we show that the congestion achieved is optimal. We show that any embedding of  $Q_n$  into  $Q_m$  which achieves a balanced load must have a congestion of at least  $2^{n-m}$ , that is,  $\lambda = \Omega(2^{n-m})$ . In order to prove our lower bound we define a hypercube-like architecture called a *compact hypercube*. Compact hypercubes contrast with hypercubes in the sense that while hypercubes can only be defined for powers of 2, compact hypercubes can be defined for any integer  $N > 0$ . Intuitively, a compact hypercube is a union of disjoint hypercubes together with the additional edges such that it forms an  $N$ -node induced graph in a hypercube. Compact hypercubes have been shown to retain many hypercube properties [4].

From gupta@sol.cs.wmich.edu Thu May 24 14:53:15 1990

## 2 Hypercube Embedding

In this section we present an efficient embedding of an  $n$ -dimensional guest hypercube  $Q_n$  into an  $m$ -dimensional host hypercube  $Q_m$ , for  $n > m$ . The embedding achieves an optimal dilation of 1, a congestion of  $2^{n-m}$ , and a balanced load of  $2^{n-m}$ . The embedding strategy is rather straight forward. The main idea is to contract  $2^{n-m}$  nodes of  $Q_n$  forming a subhypercube of dimension  $n - m$  and assign them to a node of  $Q_m$ .

Let  $g_{n-1}, g_{n-2}, \dots, g_0$  be the labels of nodes in  $Q_n$  for  $g_i = 0, 1$  and let  $h_{m-1}, h_{m-2}, \dots, h_0$  be the labels of nodes in  $Q_m$  for  $h_i = 0, 1$ . We assign nodes<sup>1</sup>  $\overbrace{\star \dots \star}^{n-m} g_{m-1}, g_{m-2}, \dots, g_0$  of  $Q_n$  to node  $h_{m-1}, h_{m-2}, \dots, h_0$  of  $Q_m$  where  $h_i = g_i$  for  $0 \leq i \leq m-1$ . Obviously adjacent nodes in  $Q_n$  are either assigned to a single node or to adjacent nodes in  $Q_m$ . Thus, the dilation achieved by the embedding is 1 which is optimal. Furthermore,  $2^{n-m}$  nodes of  $Q_n$  are assigned to every node of  $Q_m$ . Given two adjacent nodes  $v$  and  $v'$  in  $Q_m$ , each node of  $Q_n$  which is assigned to  $v$  is adjacent to exactly one node of  $Q_n$  which is assigned to  $v'$ . Since there are  $2^{n-m}$  nodes of  $Q_n$  assigned to every node of  $Q_m$ , the congestion achieved is  $2^{n-m}$ . We prove in Section 3 that this congestion is indeed optimal.

We conclude this section by pointing out that even though we described only one embedding of  $Q_n$  into  $Q_m$ , there are  $\frac{n!}{(n-m)! m!}$  such embeddings. We can easily obtain different embeddings by choosing different combination of  $m$  bits in the labels of nodes in  $Q_n$ .

## 3 Lower Bound on the Congestion

We now show that any balanced load embedding of an  $n$ -dimensional hypercube  $Q_n$  into an  $m$ -dimensional hypercube  $Q_m$  must have a congestion of at least  $2^{n-m}$ . The main idea of the proof is as follows. In any embedding the edges of  $Q_n$  that do not contribute to the congestion are the edges having both end points (i.e., nodes of  $Q_n$ ) assigned to the same node in  $Q_m$ . Thus our goal is to obtain an upper bound on the number of such

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<sup>1</sup>  $\star$  in the label indicates a wild card character that could be either 0 or 1

edges. Let this upper bound be  $U$ . Since,  $Q_n$  contains  $n2^{n-1}$  edges,  $n2^{n-1} - U$  edges of  $Q_n$  must contribute to the congestion. Hence, by using  $U$  and the number of edges in  $Q_m$ , we can determine a lower bound for the congestion  $\lambda$ . The main thrust of the lower bound proof is the computation of  $U$ .

In a graph  $G = (V, E)$ , we refer to  $|V|$ , the number of nodes in  $G$ , as the *order* of  $G$  and to  $|E|$ , the number of edges in  $G$ , as the *size* of  $G$ . An induced subgraph on a set  $S$  of nodes in graph  $G$  is the graph whose node set is  $S$  and whose edge set consists of those edges in  $G$  having both ends in  $S$ .

In order to compute  $U$ , we determine an upper bound for the size, say  $\mathcal{E}$ , of an induced subgraph of order  $2^{n-m}$  in  $Q_n$ . The size  $\mathcal{E}$  multiplied by  $2^m$  gives us  $U$ , since in a balanced load embedding exactly  $2^{n-m}$  nodes of  $Q_n$  are assigned to every node of  $Q_m$ . The most important property that allows us to compute the value  $\mathcal{E}$  is the following property of the hypercube: Any  $k$ -dimensional hypercube contains two disjoint  $k-1$  dimensional subhypercubes such that every node in one subhypercube is adjacent to exactly one node in the other subhypercube. We first give the recursive definitions of a compact set and a compact hypercube which are crucial in determining the value of  $\mathcal{E}$ .

**Definition 1** *A set of nodes  $S$  in an  $n$ -dimensional hypercube  $Q_n$  is compact if*

- i.  $|S| \leq 1$ , or
- ii. *For a positive integer  $p$ ,  $2^{p-1} \leq |S| < 2^p$ , there exists a  $p$ -dimensional hypercube  $Q_p$  with  $S$  as a subset of its nodes. In addition,  $Q_p$  contains two disjoint  $(p-1)$ -dimensional hypercubes  $Q_{p-1}^0$  and  $Q_{p-1}^1$  such that the node set  $V_{p-1}^0$  of  $Q_{p-1}^0$  is a subset of  $S$  and  $S - V_{p-1}^0$  is a compact set in  $Q_{p-1}^1$ .*

Given a compact set  $S$ , we define a *compact hypercube* to be the subgraph of a hypercube which is induced by the set  $S$ . Figure 1 shows an example of a 13 node compact hypercube. It is important to note that compact hypercubes are a generalization of hypercubes in the sense that they are defined for any arbitrary number of nodes. Furthermore, compact hypercubes share many properties with hypercubes [4, 9, 14]. We



denote the number of edges in a compact hypercube of  $r$  nodes by  $\mathcal{E}(r)$ . Lemma 1 gives a reduction formula for  $\mathcal{E}(r)$  and Lemma 2 gives the precise value of  $\mathcal{E}(r)$ .

**Lemma 1** *If  $G = (V, E)$  is a compact hypercube of hypercube  $Q_d$  and  $p$  is a positive integer such that  $2^{p-1} \leq |V| < 2^p$  then*

$$\mathcal{E}(|V|) = \mathcal{E}(|V| - 2^{p-1}) + \mathcal{E}(2^{p-1}) + |V| - 2^{p-1}, \text{ with } \mathcal{E}(0) = \mathcal{E}(1) = 0.$$

**Proof:** Follows immediately from the definition of a compact set. ■

**Lemma 2** *If  $G = (V, E)$  is a compact hypercube of hypercube  $Q_d$  and the binary representation of  $|V|$  is  $b_{p-1}b_{p-2} \dots b_0$ , then*

$$\mathcal{E}(|V|) = |E| = \sum_{i=0}^{p-1} i b_i 2^{i-1} + \sum_{i=0}^{p-2} (b_{i+1} \sum_{j=0}^i b_j 2^j).$$

**Proof:** Intuitively, the first term in the formula for  $|E|$  counts the number of edges in the disjoint hypercubes  $Q_i$ 's that are contained in  $G$ . The second term counts number of edges that connect a hypercube  $Q_i$  with a hypercube  $Q_j$ , for all possible pairs  $i$  and  $j$ . We prove the lemma using induction. It is easy to see that the formula is correct for  $|V| \leq 2$ . Assume that the formula is correct for  $|V| < l$ . Suppose now that  $|V| = l$ , where the binary representation of  $l$  is  $b_{q-1}b_{q-2} \dots b_0$  with  $b_{q-1} \neq 0$  and  $q \leq p$ , i.e.,  $b_q = b_{q+1} = \dots = b_{p-1} = 0$ . Thus, we have

$$|E| = \sum_{i=0}^{p-1} i b_i 2^{i-1} + \sum_{i=0}^{p-2} (b_{i+1} \sum_{j=0}^i b_j 2^j) = \sum_{i=0}^{q-1} i b_i 2^{i-1} + \sum_{i=0}^{q-2} (b_{i+1} \sum_{j=0}^i b_j 2^j).$$

By using Lemma 1

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}(|V|) &= \mathcal{E}(|V| - 2^{q-1}) + \mathcal{E}(2^{q-1}) + |V| - 2^{q-1} \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{q-2} i b_i 2^{i-1} + \sum_{i=0}^{q-3} (b_{i+1} \sum_{j=0}^i b_j 2^j) + \mathcal{E}(2^{q-1}) + |V| - 2^{q-1} && \text{(by induction)} \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{q-2} i b_i 2^{i-1} + \sum_{i=0}^{q-3} (b_{i+1} \sum_{j=0}^i b_j 2^j) + (q-1)2^{q-2} + \sum_{i=0}^{q-1} b_i 2^i - 2^{q-1} \\ & && \text{(by induction and the value of } |V|) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{q-1} i b_i 2^{i-1} + \sum_{i=0}^{q-2} (b_{i+1} \sum_{j=0}^i b_j 2^j). \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof. ■

We now prove a lemma and a theorem which show that any induced graph of order  $r$  in a hypercube has its size bounded by  $\mathcal{E}(r)$ . The result of the theorem provides the desired upper bound for the maximum size of the induced graph of order  $2^{n-m}$  in a hypercube.

**Lemma 3** *Suppose  $Q_{k-1}^0$  and  $Q_{k-1}^1$  are disjoint  $(k-1)$ -dimensional subhypercubes in a  $k$ -dimensional hypercube  $Q_k$ . If  $G_i = (V_i, E_i)$  is a compact hypercube of  $Q_{k-1}^i$  for  $i = 0, 1$  then*

$$\mathcal{E}(|V_0| + |V_1|) \geq \mathcal{E}(|V_0|) + \mathcal{E}(|V_1|) + \min\{|V_0|, |V_1|\}.$$

**Proof:** We proceed by induction on  $|V_0| + |V_1|$ . Note that if  $|V_0| + |V_1| \leq 2$ , then the theorem holds. Assume now that the theorem holds for  $|V_0| + |V_1| < l$ . Suppose  $|V_0| + |V_1| = l$  and the binary representation of  $|V_0|$  is  $b_{p-1}b_{p-2}\dots b_0$  and that of  $|V_1|$  is  $c_{q-1}c_{q-2}\dots c_0$ , where  $b_{p-1} = c_{q-1} = 1$ . Without loss of generality we assume  $|V_0| \geq |V_1| > 1$ , since the theorem holds for  $\min\{|V_0|, |V_1|\} \leq 1$ . We consider three cases depending on the relative values of  $p$  and  $q$ .

**Case 1:**  $q < p$  and  $|V_0| + |V_1| \leq 2^p$ .

By definition,  $G_0$  contains a subgraph  $Q_{p-1}$  which is a  $(p-1)$ -dimensional hypercube such that  $G_0 - Q_{p-1}$  is a compact hypercube of  $Q_{k-1}^0$ . Thus by using induction

$$\mathcal{E}(|V_0| + |V_1| - 2^{p-1}) \geq \mathcal{E}(|V_0| - 2^{p-1}) + \mathcal{E}(|V_1|) + \min\{|V_0| - 2^{p-1}, |V_1|\}. \quad (1)$$

Using Lemma 1, we have

$$\mathcal{E}(|V_0| + |V_1|) = \mathcal{E}(|V_0| + |V_1| - 2^{p-1}) + \mathcal{E}(2^{p-1}) + |V_0| + |V_1| - 2^{p-1}, \text{ and} \quad (2)$$

$$\mathcal{E}(|V_0|) = \mathcal{E}(|V_0| - 2^{p-1}) + \mathcal{E}(2^{p-1}) + |V_0| - 2^{p-1} \quad (3)$$

Substituting  $\mathcal{E}(|V_0| + |V_1| - 2^{p-1})$  from equation 1 into equation 2, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}(|V_0| + |V_1|) &\geq \mathcal{E}(|V_0| - 2^{p-1}) + \mathcal{E}(|V_1|) + \min\{|V_0| - 2^{p-1}, |V_1|\} \\ &\quad + \mathcal{E}(2^{p-1}) + |V_0| + |V_1| - 2^{p-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\geq \mathcal{E}(|V_0|) + \mathcal{E}(|V_1|) + \min\{|V_0| - 2^{p-1}, |V_1|\} + |V_1| \\
&\quad \text{(by substituting for } \mathcal{E}(|V_0| - 2^{p-1}) \text{ from equation 3)} \\
&\geq \mathcal{E}(|V_0|) + \mathcal{E}(|V_1|) + |V_1|.
\end{aligned}$$

**Case 2:**  $q < p$  and  $|V_0| + |V_1| > 2^p$ .

As in Case 1,  $G_0$  contains a subgraph  $Q_{p-1}$  which is a  $(p-1)$ -dimensional hypercube such that  $G_0 - Q_{p-1}$  is a compact hypercube. Now using Lemma 1

$$\mathcal{E}(|V_0| + |V_1|) = \mathcal{E}(|V_0| + |V_1| - 2^p) + \mathcal{E}(2^p) + |V_0| + |V_1| - 2^p, \quad (4)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{E}(|V_0| + |V_1| - 2^{p-1}) &= \mathcal{E}(|V_0| + |V_1| - 2^{p-1} - 2^{p-1}) + \mathcal{E}(2^{p-1}) \\
&\quad + |V_0| + |V_1| - 2^p,
\end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

$$\mathcal{E}(2^p) = \mathcal{E}(2^p - 2^{p-1}) + \mathcal{E}(2^{p-1}) + 2^{p-1}, \text{ and} \quad (6)$$

$$\mathcal{E}(|V_0|) = \mathcal{E}(|V_0| - 2^{p-1}) + \mathcal{E}(2^{p-1}) + |V_0| - 2^{p-1}. \quad (7)$$

Combining equations 4, 5, and 6, we have

$$\mathcal{E}(|V_0| + |V_1|) = \mathcal{E}(|V_0| + |V_1| - 2^{p-1}) + \mathcal{E}(2^{p-1}) + 2^{p-1} \quad (8)$$

By the induction hypothesis

$$\mathcal{E}(|V_0| - 2^{p-1} + |V_1|) \geq \mathcal{E}(|V_0| - 2^{p-1}) + \mathcal{E}(|V_1|) + \min\{|V_0| - 2^{p-1}, |V_1|\} \quad (9)$$

Now, using equations 8 and 9, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{E}(|V_0| + |V_1|) &\geq \mathcal{E}(|V_0| - 2^{p-1}) + \mathcal{E}(|V_1|) + \min\{|V_0| - 2^{p-1}, |V_1|\} + \mathcal{E}(2^{p-1}) + 2^{p-1} \\
&\geq \mathcal{E}(|V_0|) + \mathcal{E}(|V_1|) + \min\{|V_0| - 2^{p-1}, |V_1|\} + 2^p - |V_0| \\
&\quad \text{(by using equation 7)} \\
&\geq \mathcal{E}(|V_0|) + \mathcal{E}(|V_1|) + |V_1|.
\end{aligned}$$

**Case 3:**  $q = p$ .

In this case both  $V_0$  and  $V_1$  contain  $(p-1)$ -dimensional hypercubes  $Q_{p-1}$  and  $Q'_{p-1}$ , respectively. The following three formulae result from Lemma 1.

$$\mathcal{E}(|V_0| + |V_1|) = \mathcal{E}(|V_0| + |V_1| - 2^p) + \mathcal{E}(2^p) + |V_0| + |V_1| - 2^p \quad (10)$$

$$\mathcal{E}(|V_i| - 2^{p-1}) = \mathcal{E}(|V_i|) - \mathcal{E}(2^{p-1}) - |V_i| + 2^{p-1} \quad \text{for } i = 0, 1. \quad (11)$$

$$\mathcal{E}(2^p) = \mathcal{E}(2^p - 2^{p-1}) + \mathcal{E}(2^{p-1}) + 2^{p-1} \quad (12)$$

By the induction hypothesis, we have

$$\mathcal{E}(|V_0| - 2^{p-1} + |V_1| - 2^{p-1}) \geq \mathcal{E}(|V_0| - 2^{p-1}) + \mathcal{E}(|V_1| - 2^{p-1}) + |V_1| - 2^{p-1}$$

and by using equations 10, 11, and 12, we obtain the desired result of the lemma; i.e.,  $\mathcal{E}(|V_0| + |V_1|) \geq \mathcal{E}(|V_0|) + \mathcal{E}(|V_1|) + |V_1|$ . This proves the lemma. ■

**Theorem 4** *If  $G = (V, E)$  is an induced subgraph of a  $d$ -dimensional hypercube  $Q_d$  then  $|E| \leq \mathcal{E}(|V|)$ ; i.e., the size of  $G$  is bounded above by the size of a compact hypercube of the same order.*

**Proof:** Let  $k$  be the dimension of a smallest hypercube that contains  $G$ ; i.e.,  $k = \min\{j \mid \text{there exists a } j\text{-dimensional subhypercube of } Q_d \text{ containing } G\}$ . Let  $Q_k$  be such a subhypercube of  $Q_d$  and let  $Q_{k-1}^0$  and  $Q_{k-1}^1$  be two disjoint  $(k-1)$ -dimensional hypercubes contained in  $Q_k$ . Let  $Q_{k-1}^i = (V_{k-1}^i, E_{k-1}^i)$ . We define  $G_i = (V_i, E_i) = (V \cap V_{k-1}^i, E \cap E_{k-1}^i)$  for  $i = 0$  and  $1$ . Since every node in  $V_{k-1}^0$  is adjacent to exactly one node in  $V_{k-1}^1$ , the number of edges between  $V_0$  and  $V_1$  is at most  $\min\{|V_0|, |V_1|\}$ . It now follows that

$$|E| \leq |E_0| + |E_1| + \min\{|V_0|, |V_1|\}.$$

Because the size of  $G_i$  is at least 1, by induction we have  $|E_i| \leq \mathcal{E}(|V_i|)$  for  $i = 0, 1$ . Now, using these formulae:

$$|E| \leq \mathcal{E}(|V_0|) + \mathcal{E}(|V_1|) + \min\{|V_0|, |V_1|\}.$$

We now obtain the result of the theorem by applying Lemma 3 and thus

$$|E| \leq \mathcal{E}(|V_0| + |V_1|) = \mathcal{E}(|V|).$$

This completes the proof of Theorem 4. ■

The above theorem gives us an upper bound on the size of an induced subgraph as a function of the order of the induced subgraph in a hypercube. We are now ready to complete our lower bound proof for the congestion. We actually need the result of Theorem 4 only for the case when the order of the induced subgraph is  $2^{n-m}$  (since exactly  $2^{n-m}$  nodes of  $Q_n$  are assigned to every node of  $Q_m$  in a balanced embedding). Interestingly, Theorem 4 holds for any arbitrary order.

**Theorem 5** *Any embedding of an  $n$ -dimensional hypercube  $Q_n$  into an  $m$ -dimensional hypercube  $Q_m$  with a balanced load must achieve a congestion of at least  $2^{n-m}$ ; i.e.,  $\lambda = \Omega(2^{n-m})$ .*

**Proof:** Let  $\phi = \langle f, g \rangle$  be an embedding of  $Q_n$  into  $Q_m$  that achieves a balanced load. Every node of  $Q_m$  is assigned  $2^{n-m}$  nodes of  $Q_n$  by  $\phi$ . An edge  $e$  fails to contribute to the congestion if it is an edge whose end points belong to  $f^{-1}(v)$ , for some node  $v$  in  $Q_m$ ; i.e.,  $e$  is an edge in the induced graph on  $f^{-1}(v)$ . We know from Theorem 4 that the size of the induced graph on  $f^{-1}(v)$  is bounded above by  $\mathcal{E}(|f^{-1}(v)|) = (n-m)2^{n-m-1}$ , since  $|f^{-1}(v)| = 2^{n-m}$ . Thus, the maximum number of edges of  $Q_n$  that fail to contribute to the congestion is  $(n-m)2^{n-m-1}2^m$  because there are  $2^m$  nodes in  $Q_m$ . Remaining edges in  $Q_n$  must contribute to the congestion and in order to minimize the congestion over the edges of  $Q_m$ , these edges must be mapped evenly by  $g$  in  $\phi$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda &\geq \frac{n2^{n-1} - (n-m)2^{n-m-1}2^m}{m2^{m-1}} \\ &\geq 2^{n-m} \end{aligned}$$

Note that if the dilation is greater than one, then the above inequality is strict. This completes the proof of Theorem 5. ■

## 4 Conclusions

In this paper we presented a lower bound proof showing that any embedding of an  $N = 2^n$ -node hypercube  $Q_n$  into an  $M = 2^m$ -node hypercube  $Q_m$  which achieves a

balanced load must have a congestion of at least  $\frac{N}{M}$ , i.e.,  $\lambda = \Omega(\frac{N}{M})$ . We also presented a simple embedding of  $Q_n$  into  $Q_m$  that achieves this lower bound on the congestion together with an optimal dilation of 1 and a balanced load of  $\frac{N}{M}$ . The lower bound proof makes use of compact hypercubes which are a generalization of hypercubes. Compact hypercubes are defined for any arbitrary value of  $N$  as compared to a complete hypercube of  $N$  nodes where  $N$  is a power of two. We conjecture that compact hypercubes can be used to obtain lower bound proofs on the congestion of embeddings of  $k$ -ary hypercubes (the hypercubes used in this paper are binary hypercubes). Furthermore, since our lower bound proof of this paper is constructive, the lower bound proofs would result in efficient embeddings of large  $k$ -ary hypercubes into small  $k$ -ary hypercubes.

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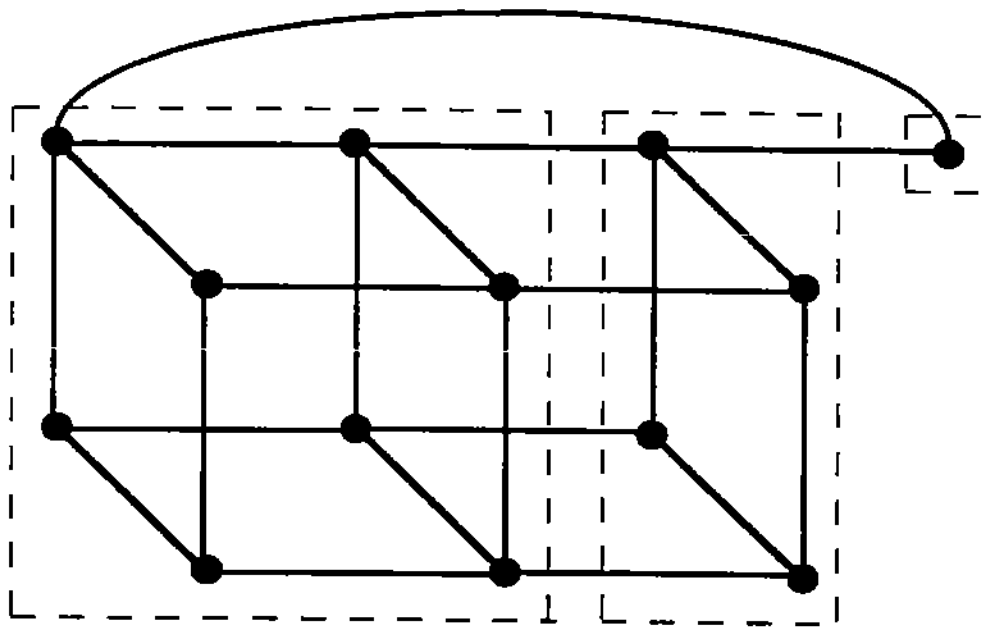


Figure 1: A compact hypercube of 13 nodes.  
(Complete hypercubes forming the compact hypercube are shown in dashed boxes.)